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LINDA E. HASTINGS

Any fee due as a result of this paper, not except by an enclosed check, may be charged on Deposit Acct. No. 50-1290.

Attorney Docket No.: 100806-00199 (NEKA 18.612)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor:

Yoshihisa MATSUBARA et al.

Serial No.:

09/840,386

Filed:

April 23, 2001

Title:

METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR

**DEVICE, AND PROCESSING SYSTEM AND** 

SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

Examiner:

Lan Vinh

Group Art Unit:

1765

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

## **AMENDMENT**

## **Introductory Comments**

In response to the Office Action issued September 16, 2004, the period for response being set to expire on December 16, 2004, please amend the above-captioned application as follows: